

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11 AF-06 FEA-01 ACDA-05

AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

OFA-01 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

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TAGS: EFIS, MO

SUBJECT: LOS: REACTION OF MOROCCAN OFFICIAL TO US SENATE ACTION ON
200 MILE FISHERIES LIMIT PLUS SOME COMMENTS ON ANTI-POLLUTION

TREATIES

1. DURING AFTER-DINNER CONVERSATION ON JANUARY 30, MEMBER
MOROCCAN DELEGATION TO CURRENT BARCELONA CONFERENCE ON
POLLUTION OF MEDITERRANEAN--WHO ALSO DELEGATE TO LAST UNITED
NATIONS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA--LAUNCHED INTO LONG BUT
INFORMATIVE MONOLOGUE BY ECOUN COMMENT THAT US SENATE HAD
PASSED BILL AKIN TO EARLIER HOUSE MEASURE TO EXTEND US
FISHERIES LIMITS.

2. POINTS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST WASHINGTON AGENCIES FOLLOW:
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A. MOROCCO, WHICH HAD EARLIER EXTENDED OWN CONTROL OVER

FISHERIES TO 70 MILES, WOULD VIEW US ACTION WITH GREAT SATISFACTION AND CONSIDERABLE FEELING OF WE-KNEW-YOU'D-SEE-SENSE. EXPLOITABLE DEPTHS OF AFRICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF ALREADY COVERED BY PRESENT MOROCCAN 70 MILE CLAIM, HOWEVER, AND GOM UNLIKELY SEE NEED TO EXTEND CLAIM TO RECIPROCATATE US ACTION. (THIS CONTRARY TO VIEWS WE HAVE HEARD ELSEWHERE, BUT COMES FROM SOURCE IN GOOD POSITION TO JUDGE).

B. DECISION BY PRESIDENT FORD TO POSTPONE SIGNING, FOLLOWING CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION, UNTIL AFTER UN CONFERENCE, VIEWED AS ASTUTE WAY TO PUT PRESSURE ON COUNTRIES WHICH STILL DRAGGING HEELS. THIS SHOULD ACHIEVE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT BEFORE US TAKES UNILATERAL ACTION. CONTACT EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE EXASPERATION WITH US INSISTENCE ON THREE MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS FEATURE. PROFESSING HE FULLY UNDERSTANDS NEEDS US NAVY, NEVERTHELESS INSISTED ON "NEEDS OF SMALL COUNTRIES TO CONTROL PASSAGE OF FOREIGN WAR VESSELS THROUGH STRAITS." (WHILE NOT STATED, REPORTING OFFICER TOOK THIS TO BE REFERENCE TO CURRENT EXTENSION OF SOVIET NAVAL ACTIVITIES IN WESTERN-MEDITERRANEAN AND ATLANTIC COAST FROM WESTERN SAHARA TO ANGOLA. AS DO MANY MOROCCANS THESE DAYS CONTACT CHARACTERIZED SOVIET ACTIONS IN AFRICA AS EXTREMELY PROVOCATIVE AND DANGEROUS, SEVERAL TIMES DESCRIBING THEIR ACTIONS AS "WILD".)

C. TO EMBOFF COMMENT THAT US HAD NOT YET RECEIVED RESPONSE FROM JUDICIAL DIVISION OF FONOFF RE DOCUMENTATION ACCEPTABLE UNDER ANTI-POLLUTION CONVENTION FOR ENTRY INTO MOROCCAN PORTS, CONTACT MADE IT CLEAR THAT GOM VIEWS MEDITERRANEAN ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURES OF SUPERIOR IMPORTANCE. GIVEN NEED TO PREPARE FOR BARCELONA AND SMALL NUMBER GOM OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN LOS MATTERS, WE NEED EXPECT NO EARLY RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE (CONFIRMING JUDGMENT EXPRESSED 75 RABAT 4875).

D. IN CONTEXT OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED, CONTACT EXPRESSED PROFOUND IMPRESSION MADE ON GOM DELEGATION AT GENEVA AND CARACAS LOS MEETINGS BY US DELEGATION. TO PARAPHRASE: "EACH TIME A POINT RAISED REGARDING NO MATTER HOW REMOTE OR UNKNOWN A GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE, US TEAM ABLE IMMEDIATELY TO PULL OUT DETAILED MAPS AND BRIEFS. IMMEDIATELY* IMMEDIATELY* FANTASTIC. WHAT A COUNTRY. WHAT EFFICIENCY." (HE ALSO NOTED THAT AMERICAN DELEGATIONS WERE NOT ONLY PROFICIENT BUT VERY LARGE, MAKING POINT THAT MOROCCO SIMPLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOES NOT HAVEKNOUGH QUALIFIED PERSONNEL TO FILL THE NEEDS OF SUCH CONFERENCES. BARCELONA POLLUTION CONFERENCE CITED AS CASE IN POINT.)

3. RE QUESTION ABOUT HOW MUCH ANTI-POLLUTION REGULATION DEVELOPING COUNTRY LIKE MOROCCO CAN AFFORD IN TERMS OF IMPOSING EXTRA COSTS ON INDUSTRY, THUS REDUCING COMPETITIVE POSITION, SMALL INITIAL DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN LOS

EXPERT AND CENTRAL BANK FINANCE DIRECTOR WHO ALSO PRESENT, RESOLVED
BY AGREEMENT THAT COSTS IN ANY EVENT REDUCED BY INTERNATIONAL
ACCORD. MOREOVER, ANTI-POLLUTION COSTS TO INDUSTRY
EXPECTED TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY OR MORE THAN OFFSET BY GAINS TO
TOURIST INDUSTRY WHICH AT PRESENT FAR LARGER FOREIGN EXCHANGE
EARNER FOR MOROCCO. OIL POLLUTION AT PRESENT REDUCES
TOURISTIC ATTRACTION OF SEVERAL RESORT AREAS.
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